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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/698,992	10/27/2000	Kazue Sadanaka	450100-02801	8478
20999	7590	12/29/2005	EXAMINER	
FROMMERM LAWRENCE & HAUG 745 FIFTH AVENUE- 10TH FL. NEW YORK, NY 10151			LAMBRECHT, CHRISTOPHER M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2611	

DATE MAILED: 12/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/698,992	SADANAKA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Christopher M. Lambrecht	2611	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 September 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-76 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-76 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.   |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
|   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.                                   |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Arguments*

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-76 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

3. Claims 1, 2, 4, 8-10, 15-17, 19-22, 24, 28-30, 35-37, 39-42, 44, 48, 49, 51, 53, 54, 58, 60-65, 67, 69-73, and 75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by European Patent Application Publication No. EP 930747 A1 by Saito et al. (submitted by Applicant in the IDS filed 2 September 2003, hereinafter “Saito”).

Regarding claim 1, Saito discloses a method for using a plurality of transmission lines (*i.e.*, connections; see ¶0011) of a digital bus (*i.e.*, IEEE-1394 serial bus; see fig. 1 and ¶0006) having a plurality of transmission lines operable in a first connection mode (*i.e.*, broadcast mode) and a second connection mode (*i.e.*, point-to-point mode), comprising the steps of:

forming a first transmission line using said first connection mode with the first transmission line being adapted to transmit data sent out from one of plural electronic apparatuses coupled to the digital bus so as to be receivable by all other electronic apparatus (see ¶0047, ll. 25-30);

forming a second transmission line using said second connection mode with the second connection line being adapted to transmit data between only two predetermined electronic apparatus and said second line not communicating data transmitted from electronic apparatus other than said predetermined electronic apparatus (see ¶0047, ll. 17-24);

pre-selecting the plurality of transmission lines of the digital bus into groups before any transmission lines among the plurality of transmission lines is formed, said groups including a first group that transmits data only in said first connection mode, and a second group that transmits data only in said second connection mode (see ¶0046; in accordance with the IEEE-1394 [and thus IEC-61883], connections are either broadcast-type or point-to-point-type; thus, the claimed pre-selected groups of transmission lines [*i.e.*, connections] inherently exist on any IEEE-1394-type bus, prior to any of said connections being formed);

classifying said plurality of electronic apparatus connected to said digital bus into groups including a first group that receives data substantially through a transmission line of said first connection mode and a second group that receives data substantially through a transmission line of said second connection mode (see ¶¶0046-47; where a device receives data through one or both of the two connection modes, it receives data through said mode(s) “in substance,” and thus receives data “substantially” through a transmission line of either or both of said first and second mode(s));

assigning some of said plurality of transmission lines to said first connection mode and the remaining transmission lines to the second connection mode (see ¶0047 and fig. 8).

As to claim 2, Saito discloses the method of claim 1, wherein a plurality of transmission lines are secured for said first connection mode (see broadcast connections 84 and 85, fig. 8)

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correspondingly to the number of said first receiving apparatus (node 75, fig. 8) connected to said digital bus.

Regarding claim 4, see Saito as applied to claims 1 and 2, above.

Regarding claims 21 and 41, see Saito as applied to claim 1, above. In addition, Saito discloses an electronic apparatus comprising means for performing said classification step and securing said transmission lines (controller 10, see fig. 1 and ¶0046).

Regarding claims 24 and 44, see the rejection of claims 21 and 41, above. In addition, Saito discloses said classification means performing said classification at a predetermined timing (see step 61 of fig. 6 and ¶0046).

Regarding claim 51, see the rejection of claim 21, above. In addition, Saito discloses means for changing a transmission line secured for said first mode when the necessity to change the connection mode of said transmission line is detected by detection means (*i.e.*, clearing connection plug registers about termination of transmission; see ¶0048).

Regarding claim 58, see the rejection of claim 21, above. In addition, Saito discloses data sending out means for sending out data through both a transmission line in said first mode and a transmission line in said second mode (see rejection).

Regarding claims 61 and 69, see the rejection of claim 21. In addition, Saito discloses means for accepting and holding an instruction input for selecting which connection mode is used (see

controller 10, ¶0046); and means for controlling the forming of a transmission line in the selected mode corresponding to said instruction (see plug control registers, fig. 7 and ¶¶0046-47).

As to claims 22, and 42, see the rejection of claim 2, above.

As to claims 8, 28, and 48, Saito discloses the system as claimed in claims 1, 21, and 41, wherein an electronic apparatus (controller 10, fig. 1) that detects the necessity to classify the electronic apparatus into said first receiving apparatus and said second receiving apparatus and the necessity to secure the transmission line performs classification of the electronic apparatus into said first receiving apparatus and said second receiving apparatus and securing of the transmission line (see ¶0045-47).

As to claims 9 and 29, see Saito as applied claims 8 and 28.

As to claims 10, 30, and 49, Saito discloses a system as claimed in claims 8, 28, and 48. In addition, Saito discloses the necessity to classify the electronic apparatus into said first receiving apparatus and said second electronic apparatus and to secure the transmission line (*i.e.*, upon bus reset; see ¶0012) is recognized when attaching of an electronic apparatus to said digital bus or detaching of an electronic apparatus from said digital bus is detected, and the electronic apparatus is classified into said first receiving apparatus and said second electronic apparatus and the transmission line is secured (*i.e.*, an IEEE-1394 compliant bus inherently detects addition or removal of nodes on the bus and asserts a bus reset in response).

As to claims 15 and 35, see Saito as applied to claims 1, 21, and 58, above.

As to claims 16 and 36, Saito discloses a system as claimed in claims 1 and 35. In addition, Saito discloses a sending out apparatus that is an electronic apparatus for sending out the data to said digital bus is connected to a secured transmission line of said first connection mode and sends out the data when an instruction input entered by a user instructing that the data is sent out to a transmission line connected in said first connection mode is accepted (see ¶0048).

As to claims 17 and 37, see Saito as applied to claims 1, 21, and 51, above.

As to claims 19, 39, and 53, Saito discloses the system of claims 17, 37, and 51 (see above). In addition, Saito discloses an apparatus connected to said digital bus changes a transmission line of said first connection mode secured for said first receiving apparatus when the change of secured transmission line of said first connection mode is instructed by a user (*i.e.*, stop command; see ¶0048).

As to claims 20, 40, and 60, Saito discloses the system of claims 1, 21, and 41, wherein said digital bus is the IEEE 1394 standard digital serial interface (see ¶0006).

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As to claim 54, Saito discloses the system as claimed in claim 41. In addition, Saito discloses said electronic apparatus is a predetermined apparatus out of the electronic apparatus connected to said digital bus (controller 10, fig. 1).

As to claims 62 and 70, Saito discloses the electronic apparatus and method of claims 61 and 69. In addition, Saito discloses connection apparatus recognition means (controller 10, fig. 1) for inquiring each electronic apparatus connected to said digital bus for recognizing each electronic apparatus coupled to said digital bus (see ¶0013), and connection mode setting notifying means for notifying that the connection mode is set to the target electronic apparatus as required when the connection mode of the transmission line formed between electronic apparatus recognized by means of said connection apparatus recognition means (see ¶0045-46).

As to claims 63 and 71, Saito discloses the electronic apparatus and corresponding method of claims 62 and 70. In addition, Saito discloses said electronic apparatus comprises connection state notifying means for notifying the connection state between all the electronic apparatus connected to said digital bus based on said connection apparatus recognition means' recognition of each of the electronic apparatus of the electronic apparatus coupled to said digital bus (plug control registers, fig. 7 and ¶0046).

As to claims 64 and 72, Saito discloses an electronic apparatus and corresponding method as claimed in claims 62 and 70. In addition, Saito discloses connection mode detection means for inquiring into the electronic apparatus connected to said digital bus to thereby detect the electronic apparatus that has presently formed a transmission line and the connection mode of the transmission line (see Saito as applied to claims 63 and 71, above); and

connection mode notifying means for notifying a detection result supplied from said connection mode detection means (see ¶0047-48).

As to claims 65 and 73, Saito discloses the electronic apparatus and corresponding method of claims 62 and 70. In addition, Saito discloses a determination means for determining whether said connection apparatus recognition means recognizes all the electronic apparatus connected to said digital bus (see ¶0044); and

controlling means for controlling said connection apparatus recognition means so as to recognize the electronic apparatus and set the connection mode of the transmission line formed between the electronic apparatus connected to said digital bus if said determination means determines that not all electronic apparatuses connected to said digital bus are recognized (*i.e.*, upon bus reset, see ¶0012-13).

Regarding claims 67 and 75, Saito discloses the electronic apparatus and corresponding method of claims 62 and 70. In addition, Saito discloses connection change detection means for detection the change when the connection between the electronic apparatus connected through said digital bus is changed (*i.e.*, an IEEE-1394 compliant bus inherently detects addition or removal of nodes on the bus and asserts a bus reset in response); and

means for controlling said connection apparatus recognition means to recognize the electronic apparatus and so as to set the connection mode of the transmission line between the electronic apparatus connected to said digital bus when said connection change detection means detects the change of connection between the electronic apparatus connected through said bus (*i.e.*, bus reset, see ¶0012).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5-7, 12-14, 18, 25-27, 32-34, 38, 45-47, 52, 55-57, 59, 68, and 76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito in view of Kawakami (of record).

Regarding claim 5, Saito discloses the method of claim 4, wherein said plurality of transmission lines comprises a transmission line of said first connection mode is previously set to each said first receiving apparatus (see node 75, fig. 8), but fails to disclose a transmission line different from said previously set transmission line is allocated to said first transmission apparatus when the data that said first receiving apparatus cannot process is found on the previous set transmission line of said first receiving apparatus.

In an analogous art, Kawakami discloses a transmission line different from said previously set transmission line is allocated to said first transmission apparatus when the data that said first receiving apparatus cannot process is found on the previous set transmission line of said first receiving apparatus (col. 23, l. 56 - col. 24, l. 8), thereby decreasing bus traffic (col. 23, ll. 28-43).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Saito to include a transmission line different from said previously set transmission line is allocated to said first transmission apparatus when the data

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that said first receiving apparatus cannot process is found on the previous set transmission line of said first receiving apparatus, as taught by Kawakami, for the benefit of decreasing bus traffic.

As to claims 6 and 7, see Saito and Kawakami as applied to claim 5. Saito discloses each setting information of said first receiving apparatus connected to said digital bus is referred (see ¶0046).

As to claims 25 and 45, see the rejection of claim 5, above.

As to claims 26, 27, 46, and 47, see the rejection of claims 6 and 7, above.

Regarding claims 12 and 32, Saito discloses said second receiving apparatus receives supply of the data from a target electronic apparatus connected to said digital bus, forms a transmission line of said second connection mode avoiding the transmission line that has been secured as the transmission line of said first connection mode, and receives supply of data through the formed transmission line (see ¶0047 and fig. 8), but fails to disclose when said second receiving apparatus receives supply of the data transmitted through the transmission line of said first connection mode of said digital bus, forms a transmission line of said first connection mode used for transmission of the data, and receives supply of the data.

In an analogous art, Kawakami discloses when said second receiving apparatus receives supply of the data transmitted through the transmission line of said first connection mode of said digital bus, forms a transmission line of said first connection mode used for transmission of the data, and receives supply of the data (col. 23, ll. 17-27), thereby decreasing bus traffic (col. 23, ll. 28-43).

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Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Saito to include when said second receiving apparatus receives supply of the data transmitted through the transmission line of said first connection mode of said digital bus, forms a transmission line of said first connection mode used for transmission of the data, and receives supply of the data, as taught by Kawakami, for the benefit of decreasing bus traffic.

As to claims 13 and 33, Saito and Kawakami together disclose a system as claimed in claims 12 and 32, wherein, when said second receiving apparatus is to receive supply of the data, that is being transmitted through the transmission line of said first connection mode (Kawakami, col. 17, ll. 5-15), then through a transmission line of said second connection mode, said second receiving apparatus specifies the sender of the data transmitted through the transmission line of said first connection mode as said target electronic apparatus that supplies the data to this apparatus, and forms a transmission line of said second connection mode between said second receiving apparatus and the specified electronic apparatus (col. 12, ll. 4-28).

As to claims 14 and 34, Saito and Kawakami together disclose a system as recited in claims 12 and 32. In addition, Kawakami discloses said second receiving apparatus is to receive supply of the data from the target electronic apparatus, said second receiving apparatus accepts a selection input entered by a user to select a sender electronic apparatus connected to said digital bus (col. 10, ll. 14-21), specifies said target electronic apparatus that supplies the date to this apparatus correspondingly to said selection input (col. 8, ll. 25-28), and forms a transmission line of said second connection mode between said second receiving apparatus and the specified electronic apparatus (col. 11, ll. 22-25).

As to claims 18 and 38, see Saito and Kawakami as applied to claim 5, above.

As to claim 52, see Saito and Kawakami as applied to claim 5, above.

Regarding claim 55, See Saito as applied to claim 21 and 32 above.

Regarding claim 56, Saito and Kawakami together disclose the system as claimed in claim 55.

In addition, Kawakami discloses said electronic apparatus comprises transmission apparatus specifying means for specifying the sender of the data transmitted through the transmission line of said first connection mode as said target electronic apparatus that supplies the data to this apparatus when this apparatus is to receive supply of the data that is being transmitted through the transmission line of said first connection mode through a transmission line of said second connection mode (col. 23, l. 44 - col. 24, l. 20), and said transmission line forming means forms a transmission line of said second connection mode between this apparatus and the specified electronic apparatus (col. 23, l. 56 - col. 24, l. 1).

Regarding claim 57, Saito and Kawakami together disclose the system as claimed in claim 55.

In addition, Kawakami discloses said electronic apparatus comprises apparatus selection input accepting means for accepting a selection input entered by a user to select an sender electronic apparatus from among said plurality of electronic apparatus connected to said digital bus when this apparatus is to receive supply of the data from the target electronic apparatus (col. 6, ll. 31-35); and

said transmission line forming means forms a transmission line of said second connection mode between this apparatus and the electronic apparatus instructed according to the apparatus selection input accepted by means of said apparatus selection input accepting means (col. 10, ll. 14-21).

Regarding claim 59, Saito discloses the system as claimed in claim 58, but fails to disclose accepting an instruction input entered by a user such that data is sent out to a transmission line connected in said first connection mode, as claimed.

In an analogous art, Kawakami discloses an instruction input accepting means for accepting an instruction input entered by a user such that data is sent out to a transmission line connected in said first connection mode (col. 11, ll. 22-25), thus enabling input switching while minimizing burden on the user (col. 21, ll. 9-15).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Saito to include accepting an instruction input entered by a user such that data is sent out to a transmission line connected in said first connection mode, as taught by Kawakami, for the benefit of reducing burden on the user.

As to claims 68 and 76, Saito discloses the electronic apparatus and method of claims 61 and 70. In addition, Saito discloses a continuous storing memory (plug control registers; see fig. 7) for storing and holding the information to instruct the connection mode to be used always when a transmission line is formed between the predetermined electronic apparatus (see ¶0046). Saito fails to disclose means for writing the information in response to user instruction, as claimed.

In an analogous art, Kawakami discloses means for writing the information that instructs the connection mode corresponding to the instruction input given by a user when the

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user instructs the information to be written in said continuous storing memory (col. 10, ll. 14-21), thus enabling the user to ensure continuous data transmission between to the target node (col. 9, ll. 43-47).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Saito to include means for writing the information in response to user instruction as taught by Kawakami, for the benefit of enabling the user to ensure continuous data transmission between to the target node.

6. Claims 3, 23, and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito in view of Fujimori (of record).

Regarding claims 3, 23, and 43, Saito together discloses the system as claimed in claims 1, 21, and 41, but fails to disclose wherein in the case that said first receiving apparatus functions to receive the data through another transmission line while said first receiving apparatus is receiving the data through one transmission line, a plurality of transmission lines are secured for said first connection mode correspondingly to the number of said first receiving apparatus obtained on the assumption that there is said first receiving apparatus on every receivable transmission line.

In analogous art, Fujimori discloses in the case that said first receiving apparatus functions to receive the data through another transmission line while said first receiving apparatus is receiving the data through one transmission line, a plurality of transmission lines are secured for said first connection mode correspondingly to the number of said first receiving apparatus obtained on the assumption that there is said first receiving apparatus on every receivable transmission line (i.e., each node which may receive data binds an isochronous

channel, p. 2, l. 59 - p. 3, l. 2), for the purpose of enabling isochronous data transmission to a plurality of nodes (p. 9, ll. 22-25).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Saito to include in the case that said first receiving apparatus functions to receive the data through another transmission line while said first receiving apparatus is receiving the data through one transmission line, a plurality of transmission lines are secured for said first connection mode correspondingly to the number of said first receiving apparatus obtained on the assumption that there is said first receiving apparatus on every receivable transmission line, as taught by Fujimori, for the purpose of enabling isochronous data transmission to a plurality of nodes.

7. Claims 66 and 74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito.

Regarding claims 66 and 74, Saito discloses the apparatus and corresponding method as claimed in claims 62 and 70 and means (controller 10) for controlling said connection apparatus recognition means to recognize the electronic apparatus and so as to set the connection mode of the transmission line formed between the electronic apparatus connected to said digital bus (*i.e.*, upon bus reset; see ¶0012). However, Saito fails to disclose the recognition is carried out in response to a start instruction input by a user.

Official notice is taken of the fact that accepting an instruction input by a user to initiate a bus reset on an IEEE-1394 serial bus is well known in the art. This enables the user to initiate a node discovery process in without changing physical connections on the bus.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Saito to include performing the said recognition in

response to an input from a user, for the benefit of enabling the user to initiate node discovery on the bus without affecting any physical connections thereto.

As to claims 11, 31, and 50, see the rejection of claims 66 and 74, above.

*Conclusion*

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

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9. The following are suggested formats for either a Certificate of Mailing or Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8(a). The certification may be included with all correspondence concerning this application or proceeding to establish a date of mailing or transmission under 37 CFR 1.8(a). Proper use of this procedure will result in such communication being considered as timely if the established date is within the required period for reply. The Certificate should be signed by the individual actually depositing or transmitting the correspondence or by an individual who, upon information and belief, expects the correspondence to be mailed or transmitted in the normal course of business by another no later than the date indicated.

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Please refer to 37 CFR 1.6(d) and 1.8(a)(2) for filing limitations concerning facsimile transmissions and mailing, respectively.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher M. Lambrecht whose telephone number is (571) 272-7297. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Grant can be reached on (571) 272-7294. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Christopher M Lambrecht  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2611

CML



HAI TRAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER